

Iowa's Notable Dead ...

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ANNA BELL LAWTHER, educator, political leader and early advocate of Woman Suffrage, died in Dubuque, Iowa October 21, 1957; born in that city September 8, 1872; daughter of William and Annie Elizabeth Bell Lawther, the father coming to Dubuque in 1835, establishing business as a merchant and later building and operating the first flour mill in Dubuque county; received her elementary education in the Dubuque public schools, attended Miss Stevens school in Philadelphia and Wells college and received her bachelor's degree from Bryn Mawr college in 1897; served as secretary to the college for five years following her graduation; returned to Dubuque in 1912 and immediately began crusading for Woman Suffrage, in which movement she became a leader both in Iowa and nationally; active in local civic and welfare organizations for many years; was Iowa's first Democratic national committee-woman after the nineteenth amendment became law; was a delegate to the 1920 Democratic national convention in San Francisco and the party's national convention in New York four years later; in 1921 was appointed to the Iowa board of education and served thereafter for 20 years; was the first woman to deliver a convocation address at the State University of Iowa, the address being made in 1940; received a number of honorary degrees from various educational institutions, and Lawther Hall at the state Teachers college at Cedar Falls was named for her; resided in recent years at St. Julien hotel at Dubuque, and is survived by several nieces and nephews.

ARCHIE A. ALEXANDER, engineer, contractor and former governor of the Virgin Islands, appointed by President Eisenhower in 1954, after spending several winters there and becoming interested in the future of the island and its people, died at Des Moines, Iowa, January 4, 1958; as a blunt and independent man of ability and integrity, he quickly ran into the violent criticism of local interests, but was praised by the then Secretary of Interior Douglas McKay, who had picked him for the post, saying he had done "an excellent job"; eventually resigned August 18, 1955, because of failing health in the midst of a house investigation into the handling of a contract for construction of a waterfront roadway on the island of St. Thomas; at his retirement, a firm composed of some of Alexander's former business associates was low bidder, but the bid and that of another contractor were rejected, Mr.

Alexander saying that he was "the instigator of that rejection" and denied any improper actions by his office; born at Ottumwa in 1889, the son of Price and Mary Alexander; in 1899, his family moved to Des Moines; attended Oak Park grammar school, the old Oak Park high school, and for a year the old Highland Park college; went to the State University of Iowa, worked his way through the engineering college and won his letter for three years as a tackle on the Iowa football teams of 1910-12; after working two years as foreman in a bridge construction firm, went into business for himself in Des Moines; from 1917 until 1925 his partner was George F. Higbee, building sewers, bridges and viaducts over Iowa, the largest being the South Des Moines sewer system; directed building of the central heating and power plant serving the state university at Iowa City; received his postgraduate degree of civil engineer there in 1925; won the Harmon Foundation's medal of honor in 1926 for outstanding service to industry, an award based on his work at Iowa City; was given an honorary doctor's degree by Howard University, Washington, where for years he was a lecturer; in 1928 was awarded the Harmon Medal as the second most successful Negro in American business; in 1934 was one of 12 members of a special commission sent to Haiti for a study of economic and social conditions; in 1953 made an inspection trip with 14 others to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, at the request of Navy Secretary R. B. Anderson; was a trustee of Howard University, Washington, D.C., and Tuskegee Institute, Tuskegee, Alabama, and a member of the board of the Supreme Liberty Life Insurance Company, Chicago; formerly served as national president of his college fraternity, Kappa Alpha Psi; has served as Des Moines head of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and of the Des Moines Interracial Commission; a charter member of the former St. Simon's Episcopal Church; a special assistant to the state Republican chairman from 1940-52, and was chairman of Polk county draft board No. 6 five years in World War II; president of the Negro Community Center board; headed the board of management of the Crocker Street Branch Y.M.C.A.; surviving are his widow, the former Audrey A. Linzy, to whom he was married in 1913; five sisters, Mrs. Harriet Hawkins, Mrs. Helen Lee, both of Chicago, Illinois, Mrs. Colleen Jones, Blue Island, Illinois, Mrs. Doris Thomas, Philadelphia, Penn., and Mrs. Edna Pinkard, New York, N. Y.; and a brother Harold Alexander, St. Louis, Mo.

LAURENCE LOCKE DOGGETT, president emeritus of Springfield (Massachusetts) college, social worker and author, died at

Longmeadow, Massachusetts, November 13, 1957; born at Manchester, Iowa, December 22, 1864; son of Simeon Locke and Mary Ann (White) Doggett, the father a lawyer whose family traced back to the Mayflower; elementary education received in the public schools of Manchester, where he was graduated from the high school in 1880; won his B.A. degree at Oberlin college, Oberlin, Ohio, in 1886; A.M. 1890, B.D. 1890, D.D. 1911; was a student at Union Theological Seminary, New York, 1889, University of Berlin 1893-94; received his Ph.D. at University of Leipzig, 1895, M.H. at International Y.M.C.A. College, 1917; LL.D. at American International College, 1933, at Amherst, 1936; principal Summer Training Institute, Silver Bay, Lake George, New York, 1903-1911; married Caroline Gillespie Durgin (A.M.) of Hillsdale, Michigan, October 3, 1894 (died 1932); children—Ruth Wedgewood Kennedy, Clinton Locke; married Olive E. Dutcher, July 3, 1934; was assistant state secretary Y.M.C.A. of Ohio, 1888; secretary of Oberlin Y.M.C.A. 1889-1890; assistant state secretary, 1890-1893; state secretary, 1895-96, of Y.M.C.A. of Ohio; became president of International Y.M.C.A. College, Springfield, Massachusetts, August 1896, retiring in 1935, then becoming president emeritus of the school which had advanced under his direction in prestige and financial standing to become one of the most influential of the nation's small colleges, the record disclosing that when he assumed the post of president, there were only 50 students under 8 instructors, and on his retirement there were 535 students enrolled with a faculty of more than 40; was awarded the Order of Orange, Nassau, 1916; the Silver Beaver, Boy Scouts of America, 1936; Second Order of Red Cross, Esthonia, 1937; was Director of International Y.M.C.A. School, Geneva, Switzerland; a member of the Massachusetts Society of Descendants of the Pilgrims, Association Employed Officers Y.M.C.A. of North America; a Congregationalist; and author of "History of the Young Men's Christian Association," Vol. I, 1896; Vol. II, 1922; "History Boston Young Men's Christian Association," 1901; and "Life of Robert R. McBurney," 1902.

THOMAS J. B. ROBINSON, former congressman, died at Hampton, Iowa, January 27, 1958; born near New Diggings, Wisconsin, August 12, 1868, son of Isaac and Eliza Graham Robinson; moved to Hampton with his parents in 1870, attended public school and graduated from high school there; entered the banking business at eighteen; married to Belle H. Clinton June 15, 1888, a daughter of the Reverend John W. Clinton; became president of the Citizens National Bank of Hampton, director of the Coulter Savings Bank of Coulter and a director

of the Alexander Savings Bank of Alexander; elected as a Republican to the Iowa state senate in 1912 and represented the Forty-third district during the 35th and 36th terms of the Legislature; served as president of the Hampton board of education, member of the Hampton library board and a trustee of Cornell College at Mount Vernon; attained the rank of Shriner in the Masonic order; member of the Methodist church, delegate to general conferences of the Methodist church, Baltimore, in 1908, Minneapolis, 1912, Saratoga Springs, 1916; delegate to Ecumenical conference in Toronto, 1911, and London, 1921; member of the Hampton city council, chairman of the Franklin county war activities during World War I; served as congressman from the Third district of Iowa from 1923 to 1933 actively supporting the McNary-Haugen bill and other farm relief measures; survived by two sons, Walter T. Robinson of Des Moines, and Lee C. Robinson of Santa Fe, New Mexico; two daughters, Mrs. F. C. (Jessie) Thornton of Hampton and Mrs. F. C. (Marguerite) French of Wayne, Illinois; a third daughter, Mrs. W. C. (Dorothy) Clinton, died several years ago; and three sisters survive, Mrs. J. H. Sniffen and Mrs. Ruth Burns of Los Angeles and Mrs. J. H. Kimball of Berkeley, California.

JOSEPH H. SAMS, physician and surgeon, died at Clarion, Iowa, January 1, 1958, at 91 years after a brief illness; born in Yadkin county, North Carolina, August 5, 1866; son of G. I. and Emily Sams, and when six months old moved with the family to Jackson county, Ohio, where his father engaged in coal mining and farming, and when about 13 years old moved with his parents to a farm near Zenorsville, then a coal mining village near Ames; came near losing his life at a cave-in, the accident resulting in a deformity from a permanent leg injury; realizing he must choose a life occupation not requiring much walking, and in the meantime moving to a farm purchased southwest of Clarion, Iowa, employment was secured in the office of Dr. G. A. Marietta, and subsequently decision was made to become a doctor; was graduated from the University of Iowa college of Medicine in 1892; did postgraduate work there, at Cincinnati, Ohio, and also at Rochester, Minn.; practiced medicine briefly at Kensett, Iowa, but returned to Clarion; married Sadie Henry May 23, 1894; a member of the Congregational church 48 years, had received his 50-year certificate of membership in the local Masonic lodge, a member of the Royal Arch at Eagle Grove and also a member of the chapter and commandry, Shrine, Odd Fellows, Eastern Star and Rotary club; a life member of the surgeon's club at Rochester, Minn., since 1915, a mem-

ber of the Wright county Medical society, the Iowa State Medical society and the American Medical association; served on the local Board of Health, the State Board of Health, the State Board of Medical Examiners, the Clarion school board, as coroner of Wright county and medical examiner for the Wright county draft board; survived by his widow, three sons and one daughter, also by one sister, Mrs. Mary Atkinson, Hastings, Minn.

ISABEL LOWDEN, founder and president of the Music Education league of New York, musical director and educator, died at her home in New York City, November 4, 1957; born at Point Pleasant, Iowa, January 24, 1875; daughter of Lorenzo Oren and Nancy Elizabeth (Breg) Lowden; a sister of Gov. Frank O. Lowden, of Illinois; spent her childhood in Hardin county, Iowa; received her M.A. degree at Stuttgart college, Arkansas, in 1897; studied at the Oberlin Conservatory of Music in Ohio and at the Florence Adams School of Expression in Chicago; taught music for five years in Little Rock and in 1913 was music critic for a year for the *Chicago Daily News*; as chairman of the Red Cross Speakers Bureau for New York county during World War I, felt keenly the loneliness of foreign-born residents far from the culture of their homelands and organized interracial festivals which were so well received that she founded the Music Week Association in 1923, the forerunner of the Music Education League organized by her and which she headed as president and secretary, approximately a half million students participating in the league's annual audition series, open to all individual instrumental and vocal students and students in ensembles whose teachers were league members; arranged many benefit performances, one of which was the "Norse Romance" in 1930 at Madison Square Garden, which she wrote and produced, the pageant featuring Sonja Henie's American debut as a skater; founded *Tempo*, a magazine sponsored by the Music Education League, and edited it for many years; had a flare for athletics and was an expert horse-woman and fancy skater; residing at the Wellington hotel, no immediate relatives survive her.

FRANK PARIS HENDERSON, attorney and secretary of Simpson college at Indianola, died at Des Moines January 4, 1958; born in Indianola, Iowa, where he has always resided, November 11, 1875; son of Judge J. H. Henderson, former state commerce counsel, and a grandson of Paris P. Henderson, early Warren county judge and sheriff and a Civil war colonel, the mother being Nancy Spray Henderson and the grandmother Martha Haworth Henderson; educated in the Indianola public

schools and took his academy and undergraduate courses at Simpson college and then pursued his law course in the State University of Iowa, obtaining his law degree in 1901; was immediately admitted to the bar and formed a partnership with his father at Indianola; continued in the practice of law there until his retirement in 1954; married in the fall of 1902 to Mirtle Anderson of Seward, Nebraska, the daughter of John Templeton and Electa Jane Anderson, Mrs. Henderson dying in 1934; a second marriage was to Mrs. Daisy Gillogly Nunn, of Des Moines, formerly of Patterson, who passed away in 1952; became a trustee of Simpson and in 1919 succeeded his father as secretary of the board, every diploma issued by Simpson previous to 1954 bearing either his or his father's signature, as board secretary; on account of advancing years he resigned from positions of personal responsibility that in his code of conduct meant care and attention to details; a member of the American and Iowa Bar associations, retired from active practice in 1953; was a charter member of the Indianola Rotary club; survived by a son, John, Chicago, Ill., a daughter, Mrs. Alice Kite, Des Moines, and seven grandchildren.

KENNETH K. KINNEY, physician and roentgenologist, died in Willimantic, Conn., November 27, 1957, of a heart attack; born in Mason City, Iowa, January 4, 1898; son of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Kinney, of Mason City, and received his elementary education in the public schools there; graduated from the high school at Sanborn, Iowa; attended the State University of Iowa, and was graduated from the University School of Medicine in the early 1920's; served his internship in a hospital at Seattle, Washington, and practiced medicine several years at Beach, North Dakota; took special work later in radiology at Harvard University School of Medicine and in a leading Boston hospital, afterward going to Willimantic, where he became distinguished in the field of roentgenology; residing with his family at Mansfield, Conn.; was married to the former Claire Callanan of Willimantic in 1932; was a Fellow of the American College of Radiologists; survived by the widow and two daughters, May and Candace Kinney, both of whom are students in eastern colleges, and two aunts.

FRANK EDWARD HORACK, JR., lawyer, educator and editor of law journal, died of a heart attack in Vermillion, South Dakota, November 25, 1957; born in Iowa City, Iowa, May 2, 1907; son of Elizabeth Grace (Collins) and Frank Edward Horack, Sr., the father a long-time member of the University of Iowa political science department and a recognized historical authority, who died November 14, 1956; educated in the public

schools and State University of Iowa at Iowa City; received bachelor and law degrees from the State University; had advanced degree from Harvard University; was special assistant to the general counsel of the U.S. treasury department in 1934-35; was assistant professor of law at West Virginia university from 1931 to 1934; became professor of law at the University of Indiana in 1935, continuing in that position 22 years until his death, and had acted as dean during the second semester of 1948-49; was a member of the order of the Coif, Phi Beta Kappa, Phi Delta Phi and Phi Kappa Psi; was editor of the *Indiana Law Journal* from 1940 to 1947, the *Indiana Administrative Code* in 1941, and contributed to many legal and political science journals; author of a number of law volumes, the most recent being "Cases on Legislation" in 1954 and "Land Use Controls" in 1955; married in 1940 to the former Helen Marie Sturgies, who survives with his mother, the latter residing at Iowa City, a son, Frank E. Horack III and a daughter, Sabra Franceise.

OTTO E. GUNDERSON, educator, banker and legislator, died January 25, 1958, at Forest City, Iowa; born in Worth county February 25, 1875; son of Edward and Olivia Kalgaarden Gunderson; educated in the rural schools, St. Ansgar Seminary and Institute, and the Northern Illinois Normal School; married to Gunine Finnesgaard of Kenyon, Minnesota on April 19, 1897; engaged in farming briefly and then operated his own store in Kensett and later in Hanlontown; elected county superintendent of schools for Worth county in 1903 and served for nine years, living in Northwood during that time; moved to Forest City in 1913 and became an officer of the Forest City National Bank; active in many community affairs; served as state senator from the forty-first district in the 41st and 42nd legislatures; was postmaster of Forest City from 1932 to 1936; organized the Forest City Farm Loan association and was its first secretary; served as Republican county chairman for Winnebago county for several years, becoming familiarly known as "O. E.;" was a delegate to the National Republican convention in 1940; held many offices in the Lutheran church; survived by one son, Harvey, a Lieutenant Colonel stationed at Fort Meade, Maryland; and one daughter, Esther, who has made her home with her father since the death of her mother December 16, 1941.

PAUL H. MCCOY, attorney and district judge, died at Mount Pleasant, Iowa, on January 22, 1958; born there July 8, 1896, son of John C. and Mary H. McCoy; graduated from high school in Mount Pleasant and attended State University of

Iowa for one year, then enrolled at Harvard, where he received his B.A. in 1918; enlisted in the navy that year and served as lieutenant commander in the navy air corps, being discharged in 1919; resumed professional studies and in 1922 was awarded Bachelor of Law degree by Harvard; returned to Mount Pleasant, entering into a law partnership with his father; married Elizabeth Gascoigne, daughter of an old American family dating back to pre-Revolutionary days, on April 23, 1923; first elected judge of the Twentieth Judicial District in 1938 and re-elected every fourth year until his death; a member of the Unitarian Fellowship of Burlington, the Henry County and Iowa State Bar associations, the Masonic lodge and Beta Theta Pi fraternity; also served as a trustee of Iowa Wesleyan college and was an honorary member of the Mount Pleasant Rotary club; once a member of the school board and city attorney there and a Republican; survived by his widow, two sons, Allan, professor of law at the University of Minnesota, and John, associate law professor at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, and a brother, Eugene, Mount Pleasant attorney.

Ross E. (Chief) WHITE, lawyer, soldier and community leader, died at Ottumwa, Iowa, November 21, 1957; born at Tama, Iowa, July 4, 1890; the son of J. E. and Villa Z. White; attended high school at Correctionville, Iowa, and was graduated from Buena Vista college at Storm Lake, Iowa, in 1913; served in World War I and on return from army service entered the law school at the State University of Iowa, from which he was graduated in 1919, going to Ottumwa that year to practice law with Clyde E. Jones, which partnership continued until his death; was a member of the American Legion, the district, state and American bar associations, Kiwanis Club, First Presbyterian Church, Ottumwa Country Club, a life member of the Elks and a member of the southern Iowa area council of Boy Scouts; had extensive farm interests and was a community leader; a fourth district Republican committeeman from 1944 to 1948, a member of the state Central committee and a delegate to the Republican national convention in 1944; survived by his wife, the former Dorothy Hendricks, a son, Richard E. White, Libertyville, Illinois, a granddaughter and two brothers, Z. Z. White and D. C. White, both of Storm Lake.

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